

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An inkjet printer comprising:
 - a plurality of rollers;
 - an endless transportation belt laid on the plurality of rollers and defining a first recess portion, which extends in a direction perpendicular to a printing medium transporting direction, in an outer circumferential surface thereof, wherein the first recess portion has a bottom defined by the transportation belt;
 - a belt rotating mechanism which applies a rotating force to the transportation belt;
 - a recording unit which is disposed to face the transportation belt and forms an image;
 - a printing medium supply mechanism which supplies a printing medium onto the transportation belt; and
 - a control unit which controls at least one of the belt rotating mechanism and the printing medium supply mechanism so that when the printing medium is on the transportation belt, one of a front end portion and a rear end portion of the printing medium is located in the first recess portion.
2. (Original) The inkjet printer according to claim 1, wherein when the printing medium is on the transportation belt, the other of the front end portion and the rear end portion is located in the first recess portion.
3. (Currently Amended) The inkjet printer according to claim 1, wherein:
 - the first recess portion is a plurality of first recess portions; and

the plurality of first recess portions includes plural types of ~~the first recess~~ portions different from each other in length in a width direction of the transportation belt.

4. (Currently Amended) The inkjet printer according to ~~of claim 1,~~claim 1, further comprising an ink absorbing member on a bottom surface of the first recess portion.

5. (Currently Amended) The inkjet printer according to claim 1, wherein:
the transportation belt defines at least two second recess portions, which extend in the printing medium transporting direction and are connected with the first recess portion, in the outer circumferential surface thereof; and

the printing medium supply mechanism supplies the printing medium, which is smaller in ~~a width~~width than the transportation belt, onto the transportation belt so that when the printing medium is on the transportation belt, both side portions of the printing medium along the printing medium transporting direction are located in the second recess portions, respectively.

6. (Currently Amended) The inkjet printer according to claim 1, wherein:
the transportation belt defines at least one second recess portion, which extends in the printing medium transporting direction and is connected with the first recess ~~portions,~~portion, in the outer circumferential surface thereof; and

the printing medium supply mechanism supplies the printing medium, which is smaller in ~~a width~~width than the transportation belt, onto the transportation belt so that when the printing medium is on the transportation belt, one of both side portions of the printing medium along the printing medium transporting direction is located in the second recess portion and the other of the both side portions overreaches a side portion of the transportation belt.

7. (Currently Amended) The inkjet printer according to ~~of claim 5,~~claim 5, further comprising an ink absorbing member on bottom surfaces of the first recess portion and the second recess portions.

8. (Currently Amended) The inkjet printer according to ~~of claim 6,~~claim 6, further comprising an ink absorbing member on bottom surfaces of the first recess portion and the second recess portion.

9. (Currently Amended) The inkjet printer according to claim 1, wherein:
the first recess portion is a plurality of first recess portions; and
the control unit controls the at least one of the belt rotating mechanism and the printing medium supply mechanism so that when the printing medium is on the transportation belt, the one of the front end portion and the rear end portion of the printing medium is located in ~~the specified~~ a specific first recess portion.

10. (Currently Amended) The inkjet printer according to claim 9, wherein the specific first recess portion ~~extends all~~extends over the width from one end of the transportation belt to another end thereof in the direction perpendicular to the printing medium transporting direction.

11. (Original) The inkjet printer according to claim 10, further comprising ink absorbing members disposed on both sides of the transportation belt, respectively.

12. (Original) The inkjet printer according to claim 10, further comprising:
a guide member disposed inside the transportation belt;
projection portions, which project from both side surfaces of the guide member, wherein the guide member and the projection portions define third recess portions;
and

ink absorbing members disposed in the third recess portions, respectively.

13. (Currently Amended) The inkjet printer according to claim 12, wherein:

the recording unit includes a plurality of inkjet heads, which eject ink to form the image; and

the ink absorbing members have a length, which is equal to or larger than ~~total~~ a total length of the inkjet heads, in the printing medium transporting direction.

14. (Original) The inkjet printer according to claim 1, wherein the recording unit includes a plurality of inkjet heads, which eject ink to form the image.

15. (Currently Amended) The inkjet printer according to claim 14, wherein the first recess portion has a length equal to or larger than that of one of the ink jet ~~head,~~heads, in the printing medium transporting direction.

16. (Currently Amended) The inkjet printer according to claim 1, wherein ~~in any ease of~~when using one of plural kinds of printing media having different ~~length~~lengths in the printing medium transporting direction from each other, the control unit controls the at least one of the belt rotating mechanism and the printing medium supply mechanism so that when the printing medium used is on the transportation belt, the one of the front end portion and the rear end portion of the printing medium used is located in the first recess portion.

17. (Currently Amended) The inkjet printer according to claim 1, wherein the control unit controls the at least one of the belt rotating mechanism and the printing medium supply mechanism so that when the printing medium is on the transportation belt, the one of a front end portion and a rear end portion of the printing medium is located in the first recess portion without contacting ~~with~~ a bottom surface of the first recess portion.

18. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) ~~An inkjet printer comprising:~~The inkjet printer according to claim 1, further comprising:

~~————— a plurality of rollers;~~

~~————— an endless transportation belt laid on the plurality of rollers;~~

~~_____ a recording unit which is disposed to face the transportation belt and forms an~~
image;

a guide member disposed inside the transportation belt;

projection portions, which project from both side surfaces of the guide member, wherein the guide member and the projection portions define recess portions; and
ink absorbing members disposed in the recess portions, respectively.

19. (New) The inkjet printer according to claim 1, wherein:

the transportation belt defines at least one second recess portion that extends in the printing medium transporting direction and around an entire outer circumferential surface of the transportation belt.

20. (New) The inkjet printer according to claim 1, wherein:

the control unit controls at least one of the belt rotating mechanism and the printing medium supply mechanism such that, after the front end portion of the printing medium is detected, the printing medium supply mechanism is stopped until the transportation belt reaches a predetermined position.